[4th March 1927

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "I suppose so, Sir."

Mr. K UPPI SAHIB:—"Are they not drenched in the unholy climate of those islands?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They have got accommodation there."

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB:—"Is it a fact that the Mappillas and their children are asked to build houses in the Andamans?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think so."

Mr. K. P. V. S. MUHAMMAD MEERA ROWTHER:—"With reference to the answer to clause (c), will the hon. the Home Member kindly get further report and place it on the table of the House?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I shall consider the question."

Mr. K. UPPI SAHIB:—"With reference to the answer to a supplementary question 'I suppose so', may I ask if, as a matter of fact, these people got houses as soon as they reached the Andamans? Was no accommodation made to receive them properly there?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I should like to have notice of the question."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I ask the hon. Member to realize the value of his words, and answer whether as the Home Member of the Madras Government responsible for persisting in this scheme, in spite of the resolution passed by this House, he satisfied himself before sending 399 unfortunate men, women and children to the Andamans, that there was sufficient and adequate accommodation for them, or whether without satisfying himself and without having any information on the matter he can simply say 'I shall make enquiries'?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Government were satisfied that there was enough accommodation. Since an hon. Member wanted some more information, I said that I would consider the question of getting further information."

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"May I ask the hon. Home Member whether he made no attempts to interview the prisoners when they were taken to Andamans, when they were in Madras?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

Mr. K. R. KARANT:—"Why?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"There was no occasion."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member why there was no occasion to interview these men, when the opinion of this Council was fairly unanimous that the scheme should be abandoned, and whether he did not consider it as part of his duty, for which he is paid handsomely, to go